Trout Fishing Regulations for Maramec Spring Park

Missouri Department of Conservation in cooperation with
The James Foundation

- Trout fishing is permitted in accordance with the Wildlife Code and posted restrictions daily from March 1st to October 31st, and during the winter catch and release season. Throughout out the year all anglers shall have a state fishing permit except those 15 years and younger or Missouri residents 65 years and older.
- Each angler shall sign and display a daily trout tag purchased on the area. The state wide daily limit is 4 trout, regardless of the number of daily tags purchased or waters fished. No person shall continue to fish for any species in these trout waters after harvesting a daily limit of 4 trout anywhere in Missouri.
- Each angler shall keep their trout separate at all times and identified with their name and address.
- Daily Limit 4 trout. Possession limit 8 trout. All brown trout less than 15 inches must be released unharmed immediately after capture. There is no minimum length limit on rainbow trout.
- Only a single pole or rod may be used. Gigging, snaring, snagging and the taking of live bait are NOT permitted.
- No person shall continue to fish for any species in these trout waters after having four trout in possession.
- Swimming and use of watercraft prohibited.
- The use of game fish or parts thereof for bait is prohibited, nor is chumming permitted.

Hours of Fishing in Missouri Trout Parks

		Opens	Closes		
Month	Central Standard Time	Daylight Savings Time	Central Standard Time	Daylight Savings Time	
March	6:30 A.M.	7:30 A.M.	6:00 P.M.	7:00 P.M.	
April		7:00 A.M.		7:30 P.M.	
May		6:30 A.M.		8:15 P.M.	
June		6:30 A.M.		8:30 P.M.	
July		6:30 A.M.		8:30 P.M.	
August		7:00 A.M.		8:00 P.M.	
September		7:30 A.M.		7:15 P.M.	
October		7:30 A.M.		6:30 P.M.	
Daylight Savings Time Begins March 8 and Continues the Rest of the Season					

Winter Catch & Release Trout Fishing Hours at Maramec Spring

2nd Friday in November to 2nd Monday in February

8:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M. Daily

The park always opens one hour prior to whistle during the regular season.

Winter Catch-and-Release Season

- Winter catch-and-release season is from the second Friday in November to the Second Monday in February daily. All anglers must possess a Trout Permit during the winter catch and release season.
- Only flies are permitted during the winter catch and release season. A fly is defined as an artificial lure constructed on a single point hook, using any material except soft plastic bait and natural and scented bait that is tied, glued or otherwise permanently attached. Flies may be fished with or without a spinner attached; small single point hook spinners commonly referred to as rooster tails may be used.
- No fish may be possessed in the winter catch and release area.

MERAMEC RIVER RED RIBBON TROUT AREA BELOW MARAMEC SPRING PARK

A Red Ribbon Trout Area is on the Meramec River, from the Missouri Highway 8 Bridge to Scott's Ford. This area is accessible by foot from Maramec Spring Park year around when the park is open.

Only flies and artificial lures may be used when fishing in the Red Ribbon Area of the Meramec River, except that soft plastic baits are specifically prohibited. In addition, the lure restrictions apply to all angling in the Red Ribbon Trout Area, not just to trout fishing.

Daily limit is two trout (brown, rainbow or combination). All trout less than 15 inches in total length must be returned the water unharmed immediately after being caught. Statewide limits apply to other species. All fish taken or possessed in this area shall be retained with head and tail intact while on these waters. Any person possessing trout in these waters must a have a valid trout permit.

Anglers fishing both Maramec Spring Park and the Meramec River Red Ribbon Trout Area must remember that different regulations apply to each area. The statewide daily limit of four (with a 15-inch minimum length for brown trout) applies to Maramec Spring Park, while a more restrictive daily limit of two trout (with a 15-inch minimum for **both** rainbows and browns) is in effect for the Red Ribbon Area.

If the number of trout caught from Maramec Spring Park is:	Then the number of trout kept from the Meramec River Red Ribbon Area may be*:
4	0
3	1
2	2
1	2
0	2

^{*}All trout must be 15 inches and no more than two trout may be possessed. Rainbow trout less than 15 inches caught in Maramec Spring Park cannot be possessed in the Meramec Red Ribbon Area.

Special Permits:

- The Department of Conservation may issue special fishing permits for specified dates without cost to supervised groups involved in rehabilitation programs or groups of hospital patients or persons with disabilities under therapy. To obtain this permit, contact the Hatchery Manager or Assistant Hatchery Manager at (573) 265-7801. Be sure to ask that the daily tag be waived as well as fishing permit.
- Any resident of Missouri having a visual acuity not exceeding 20/200 in the better eye with maximum correction, or having twenty degrees or less field of visual concentric contraction, and any resident who is so severely and permanently disabled as to be unable to move freely without the aid of a wheelchair, may fish without permit (does not include daily tag) provided while fishing he/she carries a certified statement of eligibility from a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist or from a licensed physician.
- Any honorably discharged military veteran having a service related disability of sixty percent or more or who was a prisoner of war during military service may fish without a permit (except daily tag and trout permit) providing he/she carries a statement of eligibility from the Veterans Administration.